



Assembly of First Nations

ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

July 9-11, 2024 • Montréal, Québec

DIALOGUE SESSIONS



Housing (Urban, Rural and Northern Housing, First Nations Market Housing Fund) and Infrastructure (Closing the Infrastructure Gap/Connectivity)

Monday July 8, 2024, 3:00-5:00 pm

ROOM 512CD, Convention Centre

Session Description:

The first half of the dialogue session will provide an opportunity for Chiefs and Technicians to review and discuss draft resolutions to be brought forth during the Assembly. The session will begin with a discussion on CMHC's *Rural, Northern and Indigenous Housing Strategy* and how the spirit of co-development and distinctions-based processes was contradicted. First Nations must ensure housing funds benefit First Nations citizens living away from their communities. AFN Resolution 57/2018, *National First Nations Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy* calls for the recognition of First Nations jurisdiction of housing for First Nations citizens no matter where they live.

Next, the discussion will focus on the *First Nations Market Housing Fund's* approach as it transforms The Fund to independent and more responsive. AFN Resolution 16-2013 directed the AFN to urge the federal government to honour its intent to transfer care and control of the Fund to First Nations. The AFN must ensure that First Nations are engaged in considering a truly autonomous Fund. A renewed resolution will provide direct mandates to co-develop with the Fund on the transfer of control and a provide a mandate to engage with First Nations.

The second half of the session will center discussions on *Closing the Infrastructure Gap* and how the AFN will advance advocating for the investments First Nations require to meet their housing and infrastructure needs. \$349.2 billion is needed to close the infrastructure gap by 2030 including \$135 billion for housing, \$59.5 billion for infrastructure and \$5.2 billion for digital connectivity.

Connectivity will be highlighted as it relates to not only Closing the Infrastructure Gap but also economic reconciliation. The lack of adequate internet connectivity on First Nations presents barriers to accessing and participating in the economy. Connecting First Nations opens a path to participate in the shifting landscape of the economy that can improve First Nation economic outcomes and economic independence.

Speakers List:

- Grace Martineau, Director, Housing and Infrastructure
- Dan Gaspé, Senior Policy Advisor, Housing and Infrastructure
- Sacha LaBillois, Director, Economic Development
- Alfred Loon, President, Eyou Communications Network



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Time	Agenda Item	Leads
3:00 pm	Opening Prayer	Knowledge Keeper
	Welcome and Introductions	Grace Martineau
3:15 pm	Urban, Northern and Regional Housing First Nations Market Housing Fund	Dan Gaspé
3:45 pm	Closing the Infrastructure Gap by 2030	
4:15 pm	Closing the Infrastructure Gap: Closing the Connectivity Gap	Sacha LaBillois
4:25 pm	Eeyou Communications Spectrum Access for First Nations Internet Service Providers	Alfred Loon
4:45 pm	Closing Prayer	Knowledge Keeper